

ABSTRACT

5 An apparatus for sealing an operating member of a sliding or rotating assembly
includes a seal formed by a composition of materials. A plurality of abrasive particles
are incorporated into the composition and thus positioned within the seal. The abrasive
particles are disposed to remove an amount of material adhering to the operating
member, caused primarily by graphite adhesion. The composition forming the seal can
be in the form of a laminate structure, and made of graphite, or graphite and
10 polytetrafluoroethylene ("PTFE"). The plurality of abrasive particles can be selected to
be suitable for removing material, while not substantially damaging a surface of the
operating member.